

VENONA

~~TOP SECRET~~

USSR

Ref. No.: [REDACTED] (of 30/10/1957)

Issued : [REDACTED] 28/8/1968

Copy No.: 204

6TH REISSUE

OFITsER:

1. REPORT FROM "SERGEJ"
2. 18 YEARS RESIDENCE IN JAPAN
3. REFERENCE TO ...DER AND JAPANESE SECTION OF THE COMPETITORS
4. UNKNOWN LONDON CONTACT FORWARDS TO KGB
INFORMATION FROM "IZBA" AND "RADIO STATION"
(1943)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 1094, 1095

7th July 1943

[Two-part message complete]

[Part i] To VIKTOR[i]

Your No. 2277[a].

"SERGEJ"[ii] reported that through[C% a contact man[SVYAZNIK]][b] he had met "OFITsER"[iii] with whom [3 groups unrecovered] good personal relations. OFITsER [1 group unrecovered] stated that on several occasions he had let it be understood [5 groups unrecovered]. It is known that he spent [B% 18 years] in JAPAN [C% where] he maintained contact through [8 groups unrecovered] for the "INSTITUTE[INSTITUT]"[iv] [8 groups unrecovered]DER[v] who at the moment [2 groups unrecovered] works in the Japanese Section[YAPONSKAYA SEKTsIYa] of the local[c] COMPETITORS[KONKURENTY][vi] and [C% is looking for a good] [D% successor][d][C% OFITsER can maintain contact with the suggested local counter-intelligence officer in his capacity [e]]

[13 groups unrecovered]

DISTRIBUTION:

[Continued overleaf]

VENONA

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 2 -

in[e] FRANCE in 1940, there he

[30 groups unrecoverable]

in the "IZBA"[vii] and the "RADIO STATION[RATsIYa]"[viii]. From there he got[f] documents on the USSR which were potentially of great interest. Not being in touch with us here, he could not photograph them but sent[g] short extracts to SIDON[ix] to be passed on[h] to us. [3 groups unrecovered] got[f] other information from the successor[d] and passed on[h] a little

[20 groups unrecovered]

our task.

He[j] reported that the local COMPETITORS were seeking all kinds of information relating to us.

[36 groups unrecovered]

Apparently to the local COMPETITORS [1 group unrecovered] that OFITsER [1 group unrecovered] the internal political [1 group unrecovered] military position.

[Part II]

The COMPETITORS approached OFITsER for information about the USSR. He only gave general information. Specifically they are seeking

[11 groups unrecovered]

OFITsER [1 group unrecovered].

OFITsER [8 groups unrecovered] "the American generals flatly refused to undertake military operations in Europe this year

[10 groups unrecoverable]

[1 group unrecovered].

According to OFITsER's information the Americans are at present sending to AFRICA [1 group unrecovered] in[c] [D% LIBYA[LIVIYa]]

[75 groups unrecovered].

They parted as [1 group unrecovered]. SERGEJ's impression that OFITsER is sincere and wishes to afford us material[k]

[12 groups unrecovered]

from JAPAN the verification[PROVERKA] of OFITsER who[l] [5 groups unrecovered] JAPAN. [9 groups unrecovered] [D% for sending his wife to ALBANIA]

[38 groups unrecovered]

VENONA

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 3 -

- Notes:
- [a] Not available.
 - [b] Or "the contact man".
 - [c] Presumably the adjective "local[MESTNYJ]" is used in the sense of "in America" rather than "in NEW YORK".
 - [d] The Russian word used here is "NASLEDNIK", which means "successor/heir/legatee". In this case it presumably has the sense of "replacement".
 - [e] Or "to".
 - [f] Habitual or repeated action in the past, i.e. "got/used to get/was getting".
 - [g] See note [f] above. The sense is "sent/used to send/was sending".
 - [h] Or "passed/handed over/forwarded".
 - [j] Or "I/you/she/we/you/they".
 - [k] The word "material" is an adjective.
 - [l] Without the context it is impossible to interpret this passage with any confidence.
 - (i) This could be a verification/check/vetting carried out by OFFICER or one to which he was subjected.
 - (ii) The relative pronoun could be either "who" or "which" i.e. could refer either to OFFICER or to the verification.

- Comments:
- [i] VIKTOR: Lt. Gen. P.M. FITIN.
 - [ii] SERGEJ: Vladimir PRAVDIN, TASS representative in U.S.A. Also occurs in messages between 26th June 1942 and 17th July 1945.
 - [iii] OFITsER: i.e. OFFICER. Unidentified covername. Also occurs in messages between 6th June 1943 and 25th July 1944.
 - [iv] INSTITUTE: Unidentified coverword. See NEW YORK's No. 952 of 21st June 1943 () and No. 995 of 21st June 1943 ().
 - [v]DER: Unidentified. Final syllable of a name.

VENONA

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 4 -

Comments: [vi] COMPETITORS: Members of a non-Soviet Intelligence
(Cont'd) Organisation.

[vii] IZBA: Office of Strategic Services.

[viii] RADIO STATION: Office of War Information.

[ix] SIDON: LONDON.

[x] MAKSIM: Vasiliy Mikhajlovich ZUBILIN, Soviet
Vice-Consul in NEW YORK.